

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1941.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bingley Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of my Department for the year 1941. I am indebted to the Chief Sanitary Inspector for providing the data in the second part of the report. I should like to express my thanks to the staff of the Health Department and voluntary helpers at the Clinics for their assistance during the past year. I wish also to thank the Health Committee for their support during the past year.

During 1941 we have been greatly assisted by the services of Nurse Settle which have made it possible for the Welfare work to be carried on more efficiently, I think to the greater satisfaction of all. The Sunlight Clinic has been operating successfully under the new arrangement in the premises at the Technical School. The Ante Natal Clinic has been moved to the Technical School and on Dr. Lyneman's resignation of the appointment to the Ante Natal Clinic, Dr. Rhodes has occupied that position satisfactorily.

The question of office accommodation has not received the consideration that it requires. It is essential that the work of the department should not be hampered as it has been for lack of sufficient accommodation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

A. J. M. FINDLATER,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	11,379
Population (Census 1931)	20,533
Registrar-General's Estimate of resident population, 1941	21,370
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1941) according to Rate Books	Est.	7,026
Rateable Value	Est.	£137,766
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£544

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births,

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	263	114	149
Illegitimate	9	5	4

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident populat'n, 12.07

Stillbirths 10 5 5

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 35.46

Deaths 287 140 147

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident populat'n, 13.43

Deaths from puerperal causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)
Puerperal Sepsis ... 0	0	
Other puerperal causes 1	3.46	
Total 1	3.46	

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births 29

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 29

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 43

„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ... 1

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1941.

Disease.	No. of Deaths.
Influenza	2
Diarrhoea etc. (under 2)	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	11
Other Tuberculous Disease	5
Syphilis	3
Cancer, malignant disease	43
Diabetes	3
Intracranial vascular lesions	32
Heart Disease	101
Other circulatory diseases	2
Bronchitis	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	10
Other Respiratory Diseases	1

Peptic Ulcer	1
Appendicitis	1
Other digestive diseases	5
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	6
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	7
Other puerperal Causes	1
Road Traffic	6
Other Violence	12
All other causes	24

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MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE.

The following table shows the number of visits paid by the Health Visitors in their respective districts.

	Bingley and District	Wilsden and Harden	Culling- worth	Total
First visits to infants under 1 year old	169	48	16	228
All visits to infants under 1 year old	1109	488	70	1617
Visits to children aged 1 to 5 years	1281	562	36	1879
Visits to expectant mothers ...	41	20	—	61

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(1) (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens is undertaken by the West Riding County Council. In cases of great emergency, Diphtheria swabs are bacteriologically examined at the Bradford Royal Infirmary. Arrangements for transport and payment are made by this Authority. Chemical analysis of water is carried out by the County Analyst.

(b) AMBULANCE
FACILITIES.

Infectious Cases.

The same as in 1940.

Non-Infectious Cases.

The same as in 1940.

(c) NURSING IN THE
HOME.

The same as in 1940.

(d) TREATMENT
CENTRES AND
CLINICS.

The same as in 1940.

(c) HOSPITALS.

General Hospital.

The same as in 1940.

Ear, Nose and Throat.

The same as in 1940.

Fever Hospital.

The same as in 1940.

Smallpox Hospital.

The same as in 1940.

Maternity Hospital.

The same as in 1940.

Children's Hospital.

The same as in 1940.

(2) HEALTH VISITORS.

One additional Health Visitor was appointed, and commenced duty on the 1st September.

(3) CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

The number of foster children upon the Register at the end of the year was 5. Copies of the requirements under the Public Health Act, 1936, in relation to Child Life Protection are posted in public buildings.

(4) ULTRA VIOLET RAY & ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

The Ultra Violet Ray Clinic was transferred to the Technical School, Mornington Road.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE.

The number of midwives practising in the area is five. Three of these are in private practice.

During 1941, 282 births have been notified to this Authority; of these 122 took place at the Shipley and Bingley Maternity Home.

There is an arrangement whereby necessitous patients developing obstetrical difficulties can have a consultant's opinion either at home or by appointment with the consultant. The fees are paid by the Council. Mr. Rawson, who is also attached to the Maternity Home, acts in this capacity.

A scheme for assistance to necessitous expectant mothers towards the cost of Dental Treatment is in operation in the area.

Investigation of maternal deaths is undertaken by the County Medical Officer. If hospital treatment is required for puerperal cases, they are admitted to Morton Banks Isolation Hospital.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

The Clinic shewed an attendance of 100 in 1941. Post natal cases are also encouraged to attend for examination.

REPORT

of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

and

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC CLEANSING

for the year ended 31st December, 1941.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Bingley Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The following abridged report gives an outline of the duties carried out during the year.

While there was much less Meat Inspection work than formerly, and little to do in regard to Smoke Abatement, other war time duties more than took up the time saved. These include the responsibility for salvage and decontamination of food stuffs, the salvage of paper and other waste materials, shelter inspection, inspection of firewatchers' premises, evacuees' dwellings, and collaboration with the Food Enforcement Officials.

The district secured highest place in Yorkshire for its Salvage return for the year ending October 31st, 1941, and many deputations were received to inspect methods of salvage collection and disposal. The value of Salvage reached the record figure of £3,640, equivalent to £173 per 1,000 of the population.

I desire to record my appreciation of the support received from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and to thank my office staff for their hard work and assistance. I must also thank the workmen for their great help in making the Salvage Scheme so successful.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) *Water.*

During the year a chlorination outfit was provided to the Cullingworth Reservoir and the Cottingley supply was not in use.

18 bacteriological and 5 chemical examinations were made of both public and private supplies.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.*

There were no alterations or extensions in connection with sewerage during the year.

2. *Rivers and Streams.*

Action to check pollution was taken in several cases.

3. (i) *Closet Accommodation.*

During the year 9 waste water closets were converted into pedestal closets. The scheme for entire conversion of waste water closets has been suspended for the period of hostilities, leaving 422 conversions still to do. 8 additional water closets were constructed during the year and 1 pail and 1 privy midden closets were abolished. The work of ashpit conversion continued during the year and 25 of these receptacles were replaced with 88 dustbins. The following table gives the number of each type of closet and ash receptacle remaining at the end of the year.

**NO. AND TYPES OF CLOSET ACCOMMODATION ETC.
IN THE DISTRICT, DECEMBER 31st, 1941.**

Division	Water Closets	Trough Closets	Waste Water Closets	Pail Closets	Privy Midden Closets	Ash Places	Dustbins
Bingley	3420	36	351	22	1	500	2255
Cottingley	597	0	8	6	0	14	544
Harden	364	0	2	17	0	0	308
Crossflats	759	5	9	1	0	49	517
Mickle'wte	160	0	2	15	0	8	48
Culling'th	402	0	5	31	25	24	434
Gilstead	263	0	0	1	1	0	214
Eldwick	230	0	0	44	21	0	337
Wilsden	773	0	4	34	27	32	553
Totals ...	6968	41	381	171	75	627	5210

Drainage.

During the year 51 new drains were tested, generally by means of the water test. 45 were approved and 6 disapproved. 103 old drains were examined and of these 25 were found to be in a defective condition.

(ii) *Public Cleansing.*

Your Inspector is responsible for the whole of the Public Cleansing services in the Bingley area, and the report of these services covers the year ending 31st March, 1942.

Street Cleansing was considerably disorganised during the early part of 1942 owing to heavy snowfalls, and the removal of ash and grit necessitated considerable enlargement of staff. As regards the collection and disposal of house refuse, the most important matter to be reported on is that of salvage of waste materials. Bingley is, perhaps,

unique in the fact that salvage was carried on for many years before the outbreak of hostilities, although the district does not possess a mechanical separation plant. As a result of this work Bingley residents are particularly salvage conscious and the returns which brought in £3,640 indicate their splendid collaboration with the Cleansing Department. The following is the tonnage of materials collected during the year.

Waste Paper	338½ tons	Textiles	8 tons
Black Scrap	281¼ tons	Bottles	6 tons
Baled Tins	76½ tons	Cullet	22½ tons
Aluminium	4¼ cwts.	Jars	9½ tons
Copper	8¼ cwts.	Manure	17 tons
Brass	5 cwts.	Kitchen waste	93 tons
Zinc	1 cwt.	Bones	6¾ tons
Lead	4 cwts.	Miscellaneous	6½ tons
Other Non Ferrous Metals	3 cwts.	Total Tonnage,	866¾ tons.

Included in the above return are 236½ tons of scrap metal from the Highways Dept. valued at £1,359, and 4¼ tons from the Water Dept. valued at £16.

A number of Local Authorities sent deputations to inspect the salvage methods of the district and your Inspector continued to act as Assistant Honorary District Adviser to the Salvage Dept. of the Ministry of Supply.

During its seventh year, the Gully Emptier continued to give most satisfactory service. In addition to its normal work the machine is frequently used for the cleansing of cesspools, wells, and the destruction of weeds.

The Cleansing Dept. comprises 28 males and 3 females and this number is augmented as found to be necessary. The following wage increase was made during the year.

September, 1941 1½d. per hour.

The equipment comprises four mechanical vehicles, 2 horses and carts, 1 500 gall. capacity Gully Emptier and 7 Street Orderly trucks. One horse and cart was replaced with a lorry.

Public Conveniences.

There are 48 public conveniences in the district and these are cleansed by the street orderlies, in most cases daily.

Public Mortuary.

The new mortuary continued to give every satisfaction.

(iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area.*

A tabulated statement of the area will be found on page 11. This covers Offensive Trades, Factories, Canal Boats, etc.

(iv) *Shops and Offices.*

The survey of shops and offices as regards sanitary accommodation had to be discontinued during the year. 13 inspections were made in connection with Sunday Closing and Evening Closure and 4 contraventions were dealt with.

(v) *Camping Sites.*

Four principal sites were used for camping purposes during 1941, and these are dealt with under the licensing conditions contained in the Public Health Act, 1936. The number of moveable dwellings is increasing, chiefly owing to the restrictions of petrol, and the removal of caravans from East Coast districts.

(vi) *Smoke Abatement.*

Your Inspector was re-elected as a representative of the Urban District Councils on the Executive of the West Riding of Yorkshire Regional Smoke Abatement Committee. The normal work of this Committee has been held up, but consideration is being given to the place of smoke abatement in schemes of post war reconstruction.

(vii) *Eradication of Vermin.*

During the year 164 cases of Scabies were dealt with, apart from medical treatment. Clothing and bedding was disinfected in the Council's Steam Disinfector. In connection with bed bugs, every effort is being made to reduce the spread of infestation. The belongings of prospective tenants of Council Houses are carefully inspected before being given a Council house. During the year, 3 Council houses and 19 privately owned houses were found to be infested. For freeing affected houses a heavy concentration of SO₂ was used, together with spraying with an insecticide—usually Zaldeicide or Vermicine. H.C.N. was also used.

HOUSING.

Housing work was confined during the year to abatement of overcrowding and maintenance by means of essential repairs, and 745 inspections were made in this connection.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Supervision of milk production is a most important task, for the Bingley area is one of the largest milk producing districts of the West Riding. The cow population is about 2,000, housed in 101 dairy farms.

There are 42 producers of Accredited milk and 1 producer of Tuberculin Tested Milk, and these figures indicate the remarkably high standard of milk production in this area.

The number of cowshed inspections made during the year was 256. Most of the farmers managed to maintain fairly satisfactory conditions despite their added duties in connection with arable farming.

During the year, 84 samples of milk produced or sold in Bingley were submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination by the Methylene Blue Test. Of these 67 were found to be satisfactory. One sample contained Tubercle organisms.

Distribution of milk is carried out by 67 purveyors. Of these there are four distributors of Tuberculin Tested Milk and one of Pasteurised Milk.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

40 carcasses were inspected and one carcase of a cow was condemned. The total weight of meat and other foods condemned during the year was 1,246 lbs.

Owing to shortage of staff, it was not possible to proceed with the inspection of premises where food is prepared in connection with new powers contained in Sec. 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, but arrangements were made for the temporary release of Mr. Skirrow from H.M. Forces for a period of 3 months early in 1942 to undertake this work.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS MADE.

Dwellinghouses.

Inspected and recorded under Housing Act, 1936	73
Inspected under Public Health Acts	181	473
Inspected re overcrowding cases	5	13
Inspected re verminous condition	150	15
Houses disinfested	14	
Houses disinfected	47	
Infectious cases visited	40	
Water Closets inspected	49	93

Privy Closets inspected	5	2
Pail Closets inspected	5	4
Ash Receptacles inspected	89	140
Houses of proposed tenants of Council					
Houses inspected re vermin	24	
Council Houses inspected re vermin	35	
Evacuation billets	278	2

Drainage.

Visits to work in progress	55	
New drains approved after test	45	
New drains disapproved after test	6	
Old drains tested	43	
Old drains found defective	25	
Old drains inspected	60	
Plumbing work inspected	1	

Slaughterhouses.

Visits for meat inspection	15	
Home killed carcasses inspected	40	
Food shops and preparation premises visited	11	2

Cowsheds and Dairies.

Cowsheds inspected	249	7
Dairies inspected	169	5

Bakehouses.

Number inspected	1	2
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Offensive Trades.

Premises inspected	1	1
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Factories.

Sanitary accommodation of factories inspected	12	3
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Water Supply.

Streams inspected re pollution	4	
Domestic services examined	1	
Water samples obtained	23	

Miscellaneous Inspections.

Canal Boats	8	
Tents, vans and sheds	10	3
Piggeries	5	9
Ice Cream Manufactories	3	
Public Conveniences	16	17
Salvage Depots	362	
Rat infested premises	16	2
Interviews with owners and contractors	11	
Military Camps, Billets	1	
Schools inspected	3	
Visits with Surveyor	2	
Air Raid Shelters	116	2
Food enforcement	22	
Preliminary Notices issued	191	
Statutory Notices issued	29	

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Three cases of failure to comply with Abatement Notices requiring the cleansing of dirty houses were taken before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction. Orders were made to comply with the Notices and fines were imposed in two cases.

W. E. COOKE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector, and
Supt. Public Cleansing Dept.